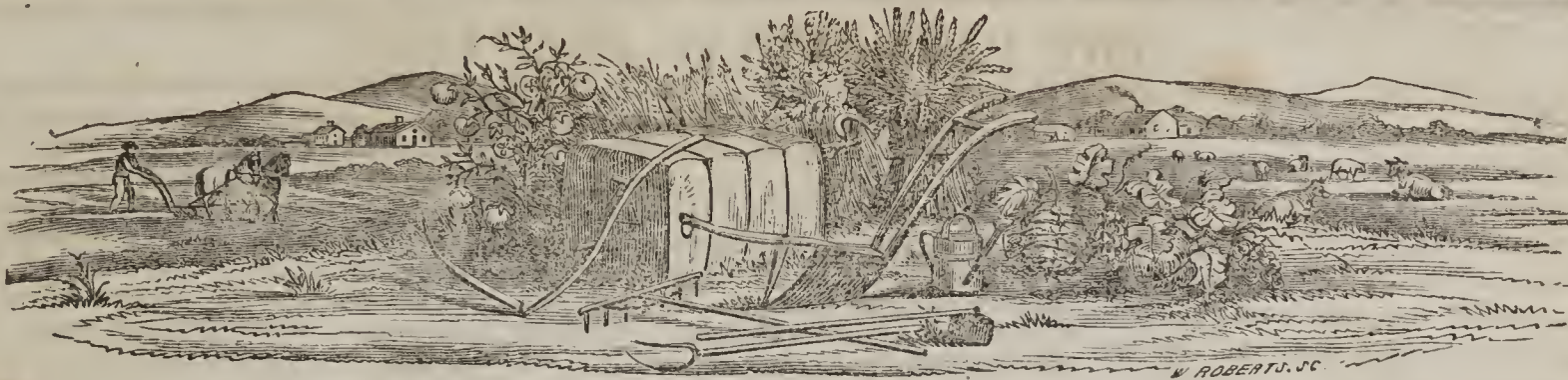


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FARMER AND PLANTER.

VOL. I.

PENDLETON, S. C., FEBRUARY, 1851.

No. 12.

The Farmer and Planter

Is published monthly at Pendleton, S. C.,

BY GEO. SEABORN & J. J. GILMAN,

Editors and Proprietors.

TERMS.

1 copy, one year (invariably in advance) \$1
6 copies one year, (directed to one office,) 5
25 copies, " " " " " 20
100 copies, " " " " " 75

All letters, except communications for the Farmer and Planter, must be POST PAID to insure attention.

Advertising and Job work done on reasonable terms.

Original Communications.

Report of the Committee on Corn---J. W. Crawford, Chairman.

THE Committee to whom was referred a report on Corn, beg leave to submit the following mode of producing and harvesting a crop of Indian Corn: Maize, or Indian Corn, is of the genus *zea*, of which there are many varieties, caused by difference in culture and climate—it is a grain *sui generis* there being no separate or distinct species of it. It is a native of Mexico, and was unknown to any of the European countries prior to the discoveries of Columbus, and was partially introduced into British Husbandry about the beginning of the sixteenth century, about the same time of the introduction of the potato, a native of South America—these have proved two of the greatest blessings bestowed upon mankind, by the Creator. The invention of mills and the art of making bread, being unknown to the Indians, among whom it was found, they ate it raw, as we do fruit, sometimes parched; upon this, with their beloved *chica*, (or whiskey) they would subsist for several days in their hunting excursions. It was associated somewhat with their religion. They assembled hiennially

at the command of their great chief, first to plant a large field of corn, and again to harvest—their festivals they rendered memorable by a great dance, hence we suppose the origin of the "Green Corn Dance." This grain may be said to be indigenous to America, being produced with very little success in any of the British Islands, being far inferior to ours both in quantity and quality, only containing about ten per cent. of oily or fatty matter, it is rated no higher than buck wheat. America is destined to reap a golden harvest from this grain as an article of export, especially if the potato blight continues, which is the chief article of food in Western Europe, but independent of this, it will enter largely into her consumption. An immense *déal* has already been exported to that country, and from the great favour it has met with there, it may some day not be exceeded as an article of export, by any production, save that of cotton. Our commercial position will soon be such, that we can reap the benefit of this foreign demand.

This grain is susceptible of being converted into food in more different forms than any other—it is a most wholesome and nutritious esculent, subject to no blight or disease. There has never been found a substitute equal to it for fattening and rearing our domestic animals—by it every thing on the farm may be said to "live, move, and have their being,"—truly has it been styled the "*veal, meadow, and manure*" of the farm. It should, therefore, be of paramount importance to the farmer, to know how he may best produce it. It is generally supposed that *any body* can make corn—this is not so—verified by the miserable prospects that meet the eye in every neighborhood; true it does not require as much diversity

of work as the cotton plant—we think, however, it requires a good deal of thrift to manage a crop of corn, as it *should be*.

The unskilful farmer too often complains of unfavorable seasons, and the unkindness of Providence, when he should blame his own folly; but if he will do his part, Providence will rarely fail to smile upon him. The refreshing dews and the genial showers will descend, and the invigorating warmth of the sun will lend their aid.

The first item, in producing a crop of corn is the adaptation of the soil to its culture. We have found from experience that a soil which is *partially* silicious, or one that contains a due proportion of sand and clay, is the most congenial to its production. Such soil being permeable to the heat, air and roots, and also retentive of moisture, which is so essential to this crop—but of all the lands with which we have had to do, there are none that will yield so large products, as that which has been under water, after thorough drainage—there appears to be something peculiarly adapted to it on this kind of land, let the texture be what it may.—Corn will not do well on stiff compact soils. The next consideration is preparation, for which a good deal of judgment is requisite—different soils requiring different preparations, both as regards the *time when done*, and the *modus operandi*. We recommend that all compact soils should be ploughed in the fall, or as early in the winter as possible, that the winter frosts may act upon them, which is one of the best of pulverizers. We recommend the subsoil plough as the most efficient instrument in the preparation of this character of soil—as it loosens the substratum and renders it less tenacious, and permits the roots to penetrate

it with ease—in fact it is the key that unlocks the treasures of the earth. Lime has the most desirable effects on this kind of soil, also long manure—all vegetable matter should be buried—if the land has been in corn the year previous the stalks should be buried, (this should be done on all lands, but particularly on this,) as it puts them out of the way, and benefits directly the coming crop—it also loosens the texture. On light, sandy soils, we do not think it necessary to have it done so early. We would not use a turning plough in such soils, as the subsoil is usually deficient in the elements of vegetable food, but would loosen the subsoil that the roots might penetrate it. If this kind of land is in stubble we would recommend a shallow turning, followed by the subsoil. We think it better not to turn any stubble land till near planting time—the stubble appears to decompose quicker, and we think the crop derives more benefit to have decomposition going on whilst the crop is making. It is the practice with a good many farmers to burn their stubble—we doubt the propriety of this plan, we think it is oftener done to render the land more easily prepared, than for any good that will result to the crop; true it gives potash to the land—but we think that when the stubble is turned under, it will not only afford what the ashes contain, but a good deal more—it keeps the land looser, induces more moisture, and prevents baking. All cold, wet bottoms, to make good corn, should be under-drained, subsoiled, and thrown into high ridges, and the rows run so as to conduct the surplus water away. On high clay lands, deep and thorough ploughing is indispensably necessary, as this kind of land suffers more from drought than any other. We have known corn to be successfully made on these lands, by being ploughed very deep with a turning plough, and thrown into high ridges, and the corn planted down in the alley or dividing furrow. As regards the best manure for corn that we have in general use, we believe cotton seed is one of the best—in fact any barnyard manure greatly increases its yield—you can't make land too rich for it, it is a great eater, and consequently a great exhauster—ashes and hog manure are excellent auxiliaries. In manuring with cotton seed, most of farmers put them in this bulk, either on top or under the corn; is a bad plan for a dry year, for as soon as the corn has eaten all the fertilizing properties out of the seed, there remains a dry, worthless mass of hulls, which we think has a tendency to cut off the moisture from below. We think the better plan is to wet them or mingle them with

a little earth, and place them in two piles in the furrow, about twelve or fifteen inches apart and plant between them.

The next item is the planting, which is the most important operation in making the crop. As regards the seed, we should propagate from the *very best* both in the animal and vegetable kingdoms. The seed of all crops should be of primary importance to the farmer. We hear much of the highly productive varieties cultivated at the North—most of these varieties have attained their excellence through the simple practice of reserving for seed that part of the crop which is the most perfectly developed. Seed corn may be advantageously soaked in some fertilizing agent—among the best is domestic guano—plaster is said to have a good effect after being steeped in tar, which is also a preventive against destruction by birds. We believe in doing any thing that will give a healthy and vigorous plant, and hasten its maturity, thereby escaping the dry and hot part of our summers, the destructive effects of which many neighborhoods have experienced the past season. The time to plant, depends on the season, the warmth and aspect of different soils—Nature affords the best guide in vegetation. Just as soon as the soil is sufficiently warmed by the vernal heat, the seed should be put in, and a plenty of them, that a good stand may be obtained and a choice of stalks may be had, as there are always some much more vigorous and thrifty than others. Open a deep, narrow furrow for the reception of the seed—the distance will depend on the fertile powers of the land planted. Each dropper should be furnished with a spacer, (which is nothing more than two small pieces of timber lapped, forming such an angle that the span will be the distance the corn is desired to stand) and a small bag or pocket, which is attached to a piece of cloth or leather, which is fastened around the waist—the spacer should be held in the left hand and the pocket on the right hip—the dropper will be rather awkward at first, but will soon become quite expert, and will drop about two thirds as much as he could without it—if the soil should vary in the same row, all that is necessary is to turn the spacer twice or three times, as may be necessary. Much is lost on thin lands by crowding—we rarely ever see a field of this kind have sufficient distance. We can see no difficulty in spacing corn. If the farmer knows the productive powers of his different soils, all that is necessary is to allow the usual number of ears to the bushel, which is 140 or 150, then make his calculation at what distance he must put the corn, to make so many stalks; assuming that each stalk produces one ear, if the land is capable of making only 10 bushels, he will require only 1500 stalks—if 50, 7,500. We should always plant for a dry year. We advocate the drill system. By planting in this way you can appropriate to each stalk its own exact ground—you obtain the benefit of horizontalizing the hills—you obtain a straighter row, which is very important for effectual ploughing, whereas in the hill system it will be in-

and-out, and consequently cannot be so effectually ploughed—many object to this system because they think it requires more hoeing, but it takes less, from the circumstance of its being better ploughed. Having put in a plenty of seed, a long narrow gopher should follow, throwing a small quantity of earth on the grain, barely enough to exclude the light, and just deep enough to induce moisture, without which it cannot germinate. On compact or tight soils, particular notice should be taken, that the seed are not put in too deep, or the atmospheric air will be excluded which is essential to germination, and even if it does germinate, the support afforded by the cotyledons, or seed lobes, (which is the only nourishment the plant receives whilst in the embryo state,) has not sufficient power to usher the plant into the light where the leaves only can assist. Having got the crop well put in, it may be considered half made.

The next consideration is the culture. We think there is nothing more necessary than to keep it free from its most formidable enemies, grass and weeds. We advocate the surface culture after a deep preparation, for several reasons—first, because it lessens horse power, and that very materially,—at least one-third—this is an important item as it is the horse that is the chief consumer of this crop. Secondly, because it abridges labor, and last, but not least, because we don't believe in cutting the roots to make the corn grow—this is preposterous! Who would think of lacerating an animal to make it grow, or cut the roots of a tree to give it life and vigor? In the cultivation of this crop, we have no better plough than the cotton sweep—a plough recently introduced in the cultivation of cotton, which requires a surface culture. As soon as the corn has attained sufficient size to be exempt from destruction by birds &c., commence running around it with the sweep, (if the land is compact clay, we think it a good plan to run around with the subsoil, as this kind of land, after heavy rains, high March winds and a hot sun is apt to run together. We do not think it necessary to do anything more than run around it the first working, as the plant is small and cannot be much influenced by breaking all the land at that stage.

The next operation is the thinning.—This would require the constant presence of the proprietor had it not been dropped with the spacer; the only thing requisite now, is to leave the most vigorous plant. We recommend early thinning, this gives size and stamina to the stalk, which it can never acquire if left late, and because it is easily eradicated when small; when left late it has to be done with the hand which is always laborious and tedious. The second, third and fourth plowings may follow at intervals of from ten to fourteen days. We believe in stirring often, for when the earth is pulverent it has a strong affinity for water, which it does not when crusted, and the dews are more readily absorbed; another great benefit of frequent stirring, is the absorption of the carbonic acid which is usually near

the surface and constitutes about one-half the pabulum of plants. Never stop for *dry weather*—the grass and weeds will not keep the moisture from escaping; as some suppose, it takes it away, for the absorption of moisture by plants is proportional or in the ratio of the surface of the leaves and stalks presented to the sun and air. Each ploughing should be succeeded by the hoe, which should take away all the grass that is left, and put the plant in its proper position. We recommend a late culture—the corn is heavier and more fully developed when worked late. Hilling corn is one of the most prevalent errors in the country, and should be rectified, as it is not only a great detriment to the plant, but costs a good deal of labor. Why those braces, with which nature has furnished it, unless to support and sustain it? There is just about as much sense in hilling corn to make it stand up and grow, as there would be to hilla tree for that purpose—nature is ever provident.

The next operation is to lacerate and bleed the plant by pulling all the blades off. This is one of the most unprofitable operations performed on the farm. "Why were they put there if not to be pulled off?" we heard an old farmer say the other day, who, by-the-by, is a very good one. Through the leaves of plants the juices or sap is elaborated, and until the sap is elaborated it is of no use to the plant—they are to the plant what the lungs are to the animal—so just as soon as you strip it of its blades or leaves, it ceases to make, and ripens before it is fully developed—the same thing is proved in the cotton plant when attacked by rust, just as soon as the rust has stripped it of its leaves, it ceases to do any more, and opens prematurely. It is said by those who know, that corn looses at least the weight of the fodder, besides the labor of pulling and saving. As a substitute, we recommend corn-fodder, or, corn sowed on purpose for fodder—or corn husks, which is excellent food for horses.

The next, and last operation, is the harvesting; this should be done just as soon as it is thoroughly ripe. Gathering corn, we think, is rather a tedious business with a good many farmers, on account of hauling so little at a time. We think every farmer should have a wagon body that would hold at least forty bushels, which four horses can draw. This will expedite the work very much especially if it is to be hauled any distance.—This is worthy of consideration, as it is generally a hurrying time where cotton accompanies corn—the corn should be slipped husked, the outer husk not being of much account and the cattle seem to prefer it on the stalk. Every farmer should have a house or shelter, to put his corn under as it is gathered, where he can husk on rainy days, and long winter nights if he thinks proper, by which means his corn will be safe, and cotton picking not will be retarded. There is nearly as much thrift required in the judi-

cious consumption of this crop as in the production, nothing *saved* is nothing *made*. The most important element for success in the production of this, as well as all other crops, is *attention*, and he who would refuse to give it, deserves not the name of master—

"He who by the plough would thrive,
Himself must either hold or drive."

Manures.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—As you invite farmers to make the pages of your excellent journal a medium of interchange of opinions—experiments, &c.—I will give my brethren of the plow a few ideas on the all-important subject of manufacturing food for their intended crops for the ensuing year, and close with an experiment which was made on the corn crop the past summer. Let the Farmer and Planter be the guiding star around which the farmers of the Old Dominion and S. Carolina, shall in futurerally to the support and improvement of Agriculture; they once stood near together, and shall we not again unite in one common brotherhood to assert the claims of Agriculture, and forward the improvement of our common mother. The materials for manufacturing food for the cultivated crops, are inexhaustible on and around the premises of every farmer in the country. Whilst J. P. Norton, Esq., is earnestly laying before the Agriculturists of the country, the neglected materials for the renovation of worn out soils—which are indeed difficult to obtain, yet good within themselves—let us turn to those much neglected materials that lie before us every step we make on our farms, which if carefully husbanded and judiciously composted, form millions of wealth.—Marl, ashes, muck, ditch bank earth, scrapings from the forest, fence-corners, yards, &c., together with animal excrements, urine and human excrements, litter from the woods, wheat and rye straw, corn and cotton stalks, soap-suds, water from the kitchen, dung of poultry, to which might be added many other valuables. In composting these materials, it is essentially necessary that the farmer pay strict attention to the preservation of the volatile parts, as well as the soluble salts contained in the materials. As all the salts needful for the improvement of our soils are usually found in the dung-heap—how needful, therefore, is it that the farmer should take good care of all the manure produced on his own land, which, if properly managed, certainly has all the elements of plants and upon which he knows he can safely rely. The most

efficient part of farm-yard, dung, and all manures to be found on our farms, save the calcareous, is that small portion invisible in the mass, which consists of earthy and alkaline salts, and ammonia, therefore it should be the object of the farmer, not only to prevent the waste of such precious substances, by every means that knowledge and ingenuity can devise, but also to make every addition to them that nature or local circumstances have placed within his reach. To carry into effect these desirable purposes, he should understand the nature of the manure he has under management and by that means he can exercise a sound discretion in adding to its quantity and effect, furthermore, he should be prepared in every sense of the word for composting—for I believe it highly necessary that all materials for the manufacture of manure, such as ashes, marl, scrapings, swamp mud, &c., should be thoroughly mixed with the manure made in the stables, cattle-yards, sheep folds, &c.—to further this plan, sheds should be erected for composting, and tanks made to catch the drippings from the heaps, which should be applied to the heaps as fast as it runs off. To the formation of composts and the diligent use of the materials for making manure, has occupied more of my time perhaps, than anything else on the farm—without it we must starve, with it we can accomplish a great deal. It has been my aim for the last six years to raise one thousand bushels of excellent manure to every hand I work; in this I have not failed, but have in a few instances gone over the mark. My first object in the months of October and November, is to give my cattle yard (which is in the form of a basin, shedded on three sides, open to the south) a good layer of corn stalks; as these are trod to pieces, marl, scrapings, or mud, with pine litter, are added—then another the good layer of stalks and so on through winter, every corn stalk in the field cultivated, is carted to a lot adjoining the cattle-yard as soon as the corn is housed, and are carried into the cattle-yard as needed. Next the fattening hog pen claims my attention; these are built with pine poles and floored, in these, first, is placed a thick layer of swamp mud, ditch-bank earth or yard scrapings, then pine litter, now and then gypsum; salt and ashes are added to increase the value of the manure and preserve the volatile particles; this course is continued until the hogs are brought to the knife; they are always slaughtered in the pens, thereby securing

ring the blood, which is a valuable addition to the heap, the hair and contents of the entrails are returned to the pens—the manure is then covered some six inches with earth, and it remains thus until the cattle yard is cleaned in the spring. My sheep fold next comes to hand—litter and marl are alternately carted in as needed. Compost heaps are formed throughout the winter from swamp mud, stable manure, ashes, gypsum, salt, scrapings, pine litter and refuse straw, (as I winter my work mules on the good wheat straw none is used for making manure). A compost is formed near every negro cabin, to secure the soap-suds, sweepings, &c. A compost is also made from the contents of the privy, chamber-lye plaster muck, &c. In March I clean out the cattle yards, sheep-fold, and hog pens, and mix the mass in alternate layers, giving to each a dressing of brine ashes and gypsum, until the heap is completed, which is then covered some six inches with yard scrapings. It remains in this situation until I am ready to cart it to the land intended for cultivation—the land being previously laid off in checks to further the regular depositing and spreading and of the manure; as soon as these rows of heaps have been carted to the field, I commence spreading, and plough it in with a good two horse plough at least eight inches deep; therefore the carting, spreading and plowing in of the manure, is carried on at the same time, thereby preserving the manure from the deleterious influence of the sun, air and rains. The formation of compost, and the collecting of materials for the manufacture of manure is troublesome and expensive, but when judiciously made their value is unknown, as they continue amply to reward us for years, and if followed by lime and clover great indeed will be the reward of the farmer, if he properly manages the soil after their application.

Compost for an Acre of Sandy Land.

10 wagon loads barn-yard manure;
5 " " of virgin clay;
10 bushels of ashes;
2 " plaster of paris;
20 wagon loads of pine litter or refuse straw, placed in alternate layers and covered with earth when the heap is completed. Cut down in 15 days—water with strong brine—add a little gypsum—re-heap and apply it to the soil in 20 days thereafter, as fermentation will be sufficiently advanced; an excess of fermentation should be avoided in the heap—the soil is the place for it to take place, as the volatile and soluble particles are then secured.

Compost for Corn.

20 wagon loads of swamp mud;
20 bushels of ashes;
5 " common salt, placed alternately in the heap;

Compost for Wheat.

20 wagon loads of wheat straw;
10 " of farm-yard or 6 of stable manure;
4 bushels of gypsum;
15 " of ashes;
4 " of salt.

Both of the above should be managed as the first, with the exception of watering with brine. I have many other directions for composting, which are at your disposal.

I promised to give the result of an ex-

periment before I concluded, but really this article is already too lengthy, though if the least good can be accomplished my aim is gained. I have a poor lot of 22 acres which was marled in 1835 but owing to the scarcity of vegetable matter, this soil being light has improved but little; as it was the practice of the overseer, kept on the farm 12 years by my guardian, to graze most unmercifully. On taking possession of my farm, in 1841, I found it greatly impoverished by the abominable system—corn, oats and grazing—as all the manure made then was applied to the cotton crop. I immediately laid aside the cotton and oats, formed a pasture, and improved the lands suitable for wheat. My system now is: Corn, with manure—Wheat, with manure, and pea-fallow, clover, and rest, instead of grazing. My land has been steadily improving. A greater part of my farm has been marled—some 175 acres in clover and herds grass—but to the experiment: This lot of 22 acres, in 1847, yielded 1½ barrels of corn to the acre, and by the aid of a pea-fallow I obtained 5 bushels of wheat in 1848. Having exhausted all my manure heaps last spring by carting the manure on sixty acres of newly marled land, and being desirous to give this lot a dressing, I ordered the carts and hands to a pincy old field adjoining said lot, and with the weeding hoes heaped the mould and litter, which was applied pretty lavishly to said lot and plowed in, the season was fine—the result is, I have housed 5 barrels of excellent corn per acre—the land is now seeded in wheat and clover, and with the blessing of a merciful God, I expect to reap a fair crop of wheat next June.

Yours &c.,

T. E. BLOUNT.

Sussex Co., Va., Dec. 2d, 1850.

Cherokee Rose Hedge.

A great variety of shrubs and trees has been used for the formation of hedges, but none is better adapted to this purpose, than the Cherokee or Carolina Rose. This plant is of a hardy nature, rapid growth, easy of cultivation, and makes a beautiful, durable, compact and perfectly impenetrable hedge; and, so far as has been ascertained, is not subject to any disease nor the depredations of any devourer. This Rose is propagated from roots, layers or cuttings, and will grow on any land, but flourishes best in a deep, rich, loamy situation. The proper season for the formation of the hedge is during the fall and winter months. If it is proposed to enclose a plantation with a hedge, remove the fence a few feet in order that the proposed hedge course may occupy the space upon which the old fence stood, as it is usually more mellow and fertile, than the adjoining soil. Clear the ground of briars, roots, stones and every thing, that might tend to retard the speedy and successful growth of the cuttings.

Break up the proposed hedge course deep, and pulverize as finely as possible, and throw up the dirt in the same manner as if preparing a cotton bed. Having procured a sufficient quantity of the rose, cut it into pieces of 16 or 18 inches in length. Then insert the cuttings about 8 or 10 inches deep in the bed, pressing the earth firmly about every one. Plant the cuttings in two rows, about one foot apart in the row, and the rows two feet distant. Having planted your hedge course, let it remain till the grass and weeds make their appearance in the spring or summer. Then scrape between the rows and cuttings in the same manner as if you were working cotton. Continue to keep the hedge course clear of weeds during the first and second summer after it is planted. Be careful in cleaning out the weeds, that the young cuttings are not injured, or misplaced by the hoe, as the least jar will frequently cause them to droop and die. Nothing now remains to be done but to keep the hedge course clear of weeds, and as the cuttings advance in length and height, interweave the branches together. This must be done by means of a long pronged or forked stick, as the briars cannot be handled with ease or safety, on account of the long, strong and sharp thorn with which this rose abounds. In three years from the insertion of the cuttings in the hedge course, if the soil has been well prepared and well worked, a hedge can be formed, which by its impenetrability, will repel the attacks of any animal, and by its beauty soften a little the desolate and gloomy appearance of our winters.

Madison Co., Miss.

M. HENRY.

Fruit and Fruit Culture.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In your Nov. Number, just at hand, I find an article upon a subject that is daily exciting more and more attention in this region, and to which I have devoted much of my leisure for years—that of *Fruit growing*. Mr. Van Buren gives us the results of his experience in a very satisfactory manner. I shall be glad if something may be learnt from mine which has proven, in many instances, pretty dearly bought.

The APPLE succeeds well with us. We have few Southern seedlings of any value; but many of the finest Northern and European sorts when fully acclimated, bear as fine crops of delicious fruit as can be desired. True, they all ripen some weeks before their usual periods in cooler climes; but that, so far from being an objection, gives us a decided advantage over our more Northern neighbors, enabling us to forestall them in market. I find that, in all cases, *low training* is necessary—that is, that the tree shall not have a naked stem of more than from one to three feet, according to circumstances or the fancy of

the grower. The tree thus protects its own stem, and the soil in which it grows, from the sun. The English *Paradise* and French *Doucin*, used for *dwarfing*, I find admirably suited to our climate. The trees are low, in fact *bushes*; and are thrown into early bearing. Where *orchards* are intended, they are not suitable. But for the amateur grower of fruit for his own use, *dwarf* trees are best.

The *PEAR* is more easily *acclimated* than any other fruit, unless perhaps the peach and nectarine. It is rare that I find a sort which will not thrive well after being propagated through two or three generations (if I may so speak) on vigorous Southern-grown stocks. The difficulty consists not in the *sort*, so often, as in the *wood*, of the individual tree grown in the North, not adapting itself to our long continued heat. It does not expand in the same proportion as the young wood; never grows thrifily, and rarely bears fruit. The pear is our best and surest fruit. I have over two hundred varieties under cultivation, and have as fine specimens among them as I have ever seen either in the North or in Europe. The *Portugal quince* is used for *dwarfing* the pear, throwing it into early bearing, and in very many instances greatly improving the fruit. For both upland and lowland it is my favorite stock, for those sorts adapted to it. Some, you are aware, do not succeed at all on the quince. I have frequently had Bartlett pears to measure 12 by 16 inches, 13 by 16, and in two instances 13½ by 17 inches. The Seckel succeeds equally well; my first Seckel trees having once been bearing apple trees—filled with grafts, nine years ago. So with Bartlett and White Doyennés. The two last over-grow and die out in about 8 to 10 years; but in the mean time I have five or six fine crops, and they are easily re-grafted.

The *PEACH* we have, some seasons, in great perfection; but too frequently the crop is scant. So of the *NECTARINE*. No use attempting Northern-grown trees. Many thousands of dollars have been expended upon these in the Southwest, all ending in disappointment.

The *APRICOT*, I feel confident will bear well, when my acclimated trees are advanced enough. I wasted a number of years on imported trees. So with the *PLUM*—the European kinds. The young trees are thrifty and vigorous and give promise of abundance of fruit. The *Chickasaw plum* is a favorite fruit here. I have some twenty varieties, as fine as ever eaten. They supply the place of the gooseberry most admirably.

If your correspondent will try the St. Lucie or Perfumed Cherry (*Cerasus Mahaleb*) as a stock, he will have a better prospect of success. It dwarfs the kinds worked upon it and makes a beautiful and thrifty little tree. The wild cherry will not do. It has been thoroughly tried. Fine cherries have been grown here. My acclimated dwarfs are yet too young.

Some seasons the *GRAPE* produces abundantly with us. Many kinds are cultivated, but I am inclined to think that the varieties of the Scuppernon to be the best and most profitable. They prove, here, to be all that their most sanguine admirers have ever claimed for them.

Of the twenty and odd sorts of *FIG* in my orchard, the Celeste or Celestial is the general favorite; although some others are nearly equal in other respects and much larger and firmer.

Of *STRAWBERRIES* we have always abundance—that is, those have who try them. Many sorts are cultivated; Kean's and Hovey's Seedlings being amongst the best. Some Southern seedlings, not yet thoroughly tested, promise at least to equal, if not surpass them.

But give me the *RASPBERRY*! My *Fastolfs*, now that I have got them thoroughly acclimated, are superb. Next to these the *Yellow Magnum Bonum*, a new English sort, the *New Red Monthly*, the *Franconia*, and the *Antwerp*, all fine. It is a fruit easy of cultivation, continues long in season, is not injured by rains nor cut off by spells of dry weather, as the strawberry, and is, in my opinion, a superior fruit. The Raspberry loves a cool, rich and stiffish soil. Make a new bed every third year.

Of the *Pomegranate*, *Medlar*, *Quince*, &c., I cannot now spare time to speak.

Experience has proved to us here, that to grow fruit successfully this far South, we must have southern-grown or acclimated trees, worked at or close to the ground, trained low, well fed at the surface of the ground (worked in shallow) with appropriate manures or composts, including a good supply of lime and bones and a little salt, and surface culture or mulching, (covering the ground around the tree with rough and decaying vegetable matter.) Root-pruning and moderate *surface* feeding, with manures especially suited to the tree will prevent fire-blight(?) Mr. V. B. is right as to the cause, I think. In planting fruit trees, I give them a good share of bones about their roots, smashing the bones to pieces with an axe on a hard block of wood placed in the hole, when planting.

You are aware I have established a large Commercial Nursery here. I mention this, as it may be said that the insisting on Southern-grown trees is good policy in a Southern Nurseryman! My Nursery was the result of this fact. I had incurred great expense and bestowed years of toil and care in testing and acclimating a vast variety of fruits, freely distributing cuttings, grafts and trees, *gratis*, until the continued low price of cotton warned me that I must either dismiss my gardener and reduce the expenses of my garden, or make it profitable. I thought it a pity to abandon what had cost me so much, and established my nursery, giving now my whole time and attention to it. It is rapidly swelling into large dimensions—there being now some fifteen acres in stock, and forty acres in all under preparation; propagating and green-houses; some miles of walks and drives, lined with specimen trees &c. As all this appears somewhat like a smuggled advertisement, I must apologise and promise not to repeat the offence.

In the very interesting *Report on the Dairy business*, in this same number, I find no mention of the most valuable of all our grasses—Bermuda-grass, so-called—Doub-grass (*Cynodon dactylon*). Perhaps in the mountain region referred to, it would require South-hill sides, and shelter-

ed bottoms. Tho' a sad pest in a badly managed crop, it is the most valuable grass, for pasturage and hay, of which I have any knowledge.

The very interesting article on *Raising pork* is worth your years subscription. Let me suggest, in the way of shelter for hogs, half a dozen small sheds, framed on rough, heavy sled-runners of oak or walnut, or some other durable wood. These sheds are open at both ends, or only one, and are scattered about on dry knolls or ridges, in the hog pasture. When the hogs become dusty and infested with vermin, a single mule will move the shed a short distance to a fresh spot. Try it. Hogs will quickly collect all the bedding they need in this climate.—“The Old Farmer” (how much more sociable and neighborly, for so interesting a writer, to write over his own proper signature!) will find the moveable sheds do away with all the objections he advances to shelters; and hogs greatly prefer them to wooden-floored shelters of any kind.

There again! Who the dence is *Broomsedge*? A hard customer, from the name. He must come of the swamp sort, he handles so stiff a broom!

With the best wishes for the success of the FARMER & PLANTER, I am,

Yours very respectfully.

THOMAS AFFLECK.

Washington, Adams Co., Miss., Nov. 26, '50.

Cultivation of Upland Rice.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—As I see some useful receipts in your paper on housewifery, I make the enquiry of you, or some of your subscribers, as a whole-souled Son of Temperance, fond of milk, coffee, good beer, &c., how do you make good *Persimmon Beer*? We have it sometimes very fine, and sometimes miss as badly as the young farmer did when he advised his neighbor to turn in geese to eat the grasshoppers off his corn, (“book farming” would have told him that turkeys were preferable).

Say to Broomsedge that some planters in Williamsburg planted their cotton lands all in rice last year, and tended in the same way as they would cotton, and were successful in a crop, and think it is a better business than five or six cent cotton. I would say, for my own part, that rice is very easily made. Plant it from two to three and-a-half feet apart in drills, and keep the grass out of it. If seeded from the 15th of March to the 15th of April, there will be a good crop obtained, if the season is not too dry in August and September. When I say good crop, I mean from 25 to 60 bushels to the acre. The tide way of planting is quite different, because the lands are rich, and convenience of water makes it mature better. The tide-water growers plant from 8 to 15 inches in the drill, and sow at least two bushels to the acre. For our up country, from one peck to one half bushel, is quite enough. I made this year from two acres about 75 bushels of fine, heavy rice—seeded and tended precisely as cotton.

I don't write with any boasting motive, I am not ashamed to acknowledge that book farming is an advantage to me, nor anything else that is

useful; I feel that I have been rewarded for my subscription money I paid for the Farmer and Planter, and would readily subscribe for half-a-dozen more Southern agricultural papers, if I had an opportunity. We have a discretion, and every man that makes his living by farming, ought to exercise some thought. Hearing or reading a man's views is nothing against us at any time, but frequently an advantage. By reading the Farmer and Planter, I have learned to make Rutabaga turnips; I always desired to know, but felt ashamed when I saw them in the Charleston Market, to let it be known that I was so ignorant, as not to know how to make turnips; but I have heard hundreds of smarter men asking simpler questions than that. I wish I could hear every man's opinion in the Southern States on farming, gardening, and all other useful and honorable occupations in life. I believe in farmers helping one another, for some of us have seen what was and is called good farming all our lives, and still believe that there can be very great improvements made in the whole matter yet. In the space of fifteen years, labor has been curtailed one-third, on the same amount of produce—still we see some hide-bound old fellows, working forty hands hard to make what ten do easy. They listen to no man's opinion, they don't believe in "book farming." They rise early, bustle about, yelling and whooping all over the plantation, till nine or ten o'clock before they take time to get breakfast, and then perhaps the horses are not fed; thus he goes again running down the best horse to catch the meanest, and at the end of the year if his potato crop misses, he feels sad. After him and all about him have worked harder than his neighbor, and he has not made half as much. And why? Because he has not learned how—don't believe in "book farming,"—don't believe in any man's opinion but his own—to hire an overseer that understood planting, would be too expensive, and upon the whole, he lives and dies pretty much like a gourd.

In regard to the mole upon which I made an enquiry some time since, I would say I am perfectly willing to feed him in autumn, when he rises and eats the under side of the ear of corn on the ground, but Broom sedge must feed him in the spring when he eats seed corn—and I must confess I am not fond of his plowing as a cropper.

Yours, respectfully,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Natural Grove, S. C., Dec. 2, 1850.

The Cultivation of Rice.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In consulting the "Planter" I notice a remark on the culture of rice, with a challenge I would gladly meet, but it is well known that I am not a ready writer for ordinary purposes, and to attempt an essay for the press, would be assuming a task far beyond my capacities. I therefore will give you the result of my experience in rice culture, for your private use. Some four years since, I cleared a piece of land, through which there ran a branch, which was hemmed in by skirts of land too wet for corn; on these necks I sowed rice, in

rows where I could make them, and when too wet to make rows, I sowed broad cast, none of which received any culture and yielded a barrel of clean rice, at the rice mill of T. Cassaway, some six miles from Pendleton. My second effort was with the upland rice; I planted between the drills in my corn. (on land known here as second bottom) about three half pints this was worked as my corn, the product $1\frac{1}{4}$ bushels from the threshing machine. My third effort was made this summer, both on lands rather wet for corn, and on that of the most elevated lands on my farm, I planted the wet lands in drills $3\frac{1}{2}$ by 1 foot, which was worked as my corn, and made as good rice as I have ever seen—that on the high lands was planted between the drills in my corn, it was feeble when young, and required care in its culture, yet I am of opinion it yielded more food for my family than the corn of the same field.

The grain of rice is not all that is useful; the straw being soft is easily cut by the knife, and masticated by the horse and cow, of which they are extremely fond. My mode of freeing the rice from the straw, is the same as that used in threshing and cleaning wheat.

Hail good rice!—blessed dish—
Better than fowl, flesh or fish;
Beat it clean and boil it well,
A little will to plenty swell.

E. H.

Suggestions to Farmers.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I send you enclosed \$5, and you will see below the names of three new subscribers, together with Mr. K.'s and my own; you will continue sending Mr. K.'s paper to ———; I forget his first name, but you have it on your list. I know three other gentlemen who will give me their dollar for your journal the next time I see them. I regret exceedingly that I have not been able to do more for your journal than I have done. I will continue to do all I can. I could have done much more, but I have to labour for the support of my family, and have but little time to spend from home—never go out only when compelled.

Rather than the Farmer and Planter shall fail for the want of support, give us timely notice and I will be one of five hundred that will pay \$25, one half in advance, to its support for five years. What! not enterprising planters enough in South Carolina, with some help from other States, to support a one dollar journal of such inestimable value? Too much shame for old Palmetto. Brother planters, get out of it—don't bring in your pumpkins one in one end of a bag, and a rock in the other as balance, because *daddy did*. Don't wear out your land because *daddy did*. It is as easy to improve as to wear out, and daddy did a thousand other things that we ought not to do, and can not do if we live much longer on these sand hills, housing eight bushels of corn, yes, worse than eight bushels per acre. You may not believe all that I have said, but if I had time I would say a great deal more, and prove it so plain, that you could see it much plainer than the Irishman saw the musquito sitting on top of the steeple. Respectfully yours,

PLOUGH BOY.

Cypress Cottage, S. C. Jan. 9, 1850.

Practice of Manuring.

WASHINGTON, WILKES CO., Ga. }
January 9th, 1851.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I have succeeded in obtaining for the second volume of the "Farmer and Planter" five subscribers in addition to my own name, and herewith enclose five dollars for the payment of six copies, all to be sent to one office, to wit: Washington, Wilkes county, Ga. In doing this, I do not appropriate the sixth copy to myself, (extra) but the extra copy and all are put down at 83 cents to each subscriber, thus making the paper so low, that I wonder every farmer throughout the whole south does not avail himself of a copy. A majority of the planters of this and the adjoining counties take that most excellent agricultural paper, the "Southern Cultivator," which has now reached its tenth volume. And although there remains much, *very much* to be done, yet it is surprising to see how much it has effected. Ten years ago comparatively few paid any attention to manuring, and perhaps not one to hill-side ditching, but now it is not an uncommon thing for planters working from twenty to twenty-five hands, to haul out regularly his four or five hundred wagon loads of good manure on his exhausted lands, which return to him crops quite equal to their product when fresh. This is effected mainly by hauling forest leaves into our horse lots, cow-pens, and hog pens, where they are suffered to remain until well trodden, then mixed with the stable manure and cotton seed, and the whole put into large piles ready to be taken out to the field at the proper time. Every wet day is appropriated to hauling leaves, and scraping lots, throughout the year. There are not a few who now have hill-side ditched pretty much every field they cultivate, which operation (if a man goes at it with a right good will) is easily done. The fall generally given to hill side ditches, is from three-fourths to one inch to the yard, and if the land be very broken it is none too much.

It is no excuse for a man that because he takes one agricultural paper, that he cannot or will not subscribe for another—let him send one to his overseer, for which he will not only receive thanks, but be much benefitted besides.

If ever the planters of Carolina and Georgia succeed in cropping upon their old exhausted lands to advantage, it must be by heavy manuring, hill-side ditching, and teaching one another through the medium of a well conducted agricultural paper. Very respectfully,

A. S. WINGFIELD.

P. S.—Since writing the above another name has been handed in, and six dollars enclosed instead of five.

A. S. W.

Enquiry.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I send you one dollar, for which you will please continue your paper to my address. I feel willing to encourage your paper as far as lies in my power—I think it should be sustained.

Please make the enquiry through the columns of your paper on the best plan of making an Embankment. Yours &c., J. W. L.

Will some of our readers familiar with the subject, give the desired information.—Eds.

Review of the November Number.

"When Doctors disagree,
Disciples then are free."

MESSRS. EDITORS:—We regret that Big Branch is so far from the big road, that we never receive the Farmer and Planter until it is too late to sum up our comments before the Devil calls for copy.

We heartily thank Mr. Simpson for his very sensible address. It is the duty of every man, to try to simplify scientific knowledge and thus bring it into daily use. But we cannot subscribe to the doctrines of Petzholdt, that by turning in green crops, you add nothing to the soil, save what the plant abstracted from it. "The proof of the pudding lies in eating it." We have never seen any green crop properly turned under, which did not improve the soil. But there must be some mistake in the table of the constituents of plants. Bousingault only gives to—

Potatoes.	Tarnips.	Jerusalem Artichokes
Potass. 51	33.7	Phos. pot. & lime 0.20
Lime 1.8	10.9	Citrate " " 1.15
		Sulph. " 0.12

These are very far below the proportions laid down by Mr. Simpson's tables.—Somebody is at fault.

"REPORT ON THE DAIRY BUSINESS."—A very interesting communication. There can be no doubt that the mountain region alluded to, is admirably adapted to this branch of industry. If grass can be grown in New England upon land costing \$200 per acre, and sold with profit in Columbia and Augusta; if potatoes can be grown as near to sun rise as Maine, and bear transportation to Columbia; if cheese and butter can be manufactured in New York, from the milk of cows that are fed at the cost of hundreds, and sold at a profit to southern planters, we see no reason why we can't live by it at home. When the rail roads now in projection, pierce the mountain region, the eyes of people will be opened, and we will hear no more talk of California.

"PORK RAISING."—A capital article—worth one years subscription. Let us hear from the Old Farmer oftener.

"MOLES AND RATS."—We will not join in the crusade vs. moles, but never having heard a rat suspected of doing any good, we will ever war against them to the knife. Lime among wheat or oats is better than ashes.

"FRUIT CULTURE."—Very good, we are glad to find the taste for good fruit increasing. It is quite as easy to grow good as bad varieties, and there is no sense in having the whole world filled with "horse apples" and "sweetenings."

"CLAIMS OF AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS TO LEGISLATIVE AID."—Very good Messrs.

Editors—"hit 'em again," they are a thick skinned set, these lords and masters of ours, particularly after the elections are over. We must keep these things before the people. The poor have a right to be educated. The agriculturist has a right to a return of taxes levied on him, either in developing his resources or opening roads for him to market.

Review of the December Number.

"REPORT ON RICE."—A very interesting report really. How often the destinies of nations depend upon very small events.

"BURNING WOODS AGAIN."—Why our old friend Pry has come to life again and is down upon us in full force. We are not disposed to make a Bermuda grass controversy out of this, but as we are into it, we'll try to get out of it, in as few words as possible. Pry complains that we have put words into his mouth, of which he can find no trace. If he did not mean to cite the practices of the Aborigines or the fertility of the western lands, as proofs of his theory, what was the use of introducing them. We never accused him of saying that the Geological formation had nothing to do with it. We thought we had a right to ask the question. Pry need not get so warm, he did say, "yet the astonishing yield of all the western lands, and often in situations not justified by their appearances, goes to show that it has had that tendency in an eminent degree." Now if Pry had read his article as carefully as we have, he would not have omitted that all in his reply to Broomsedge. Pry says "lands cannot be made rich by the largest amount of inorganic manure simply," and in the next breath, tells us "the value of the soil depends almost entirely upon the amount of its inorganic constituents. Where these exist in sufficient quantity, the organic materials soon follow as a natural consequence." Ergo our forest lands are seldom if ever deficient in organic matter and produce best when its organic matter is all decomposed.

Verily this is something new to us—no use for organic matter! The world is running mad upon inorganic manures surely. Now M. Payen gives us an analysis of a soil on the banks of the Volga, said to be the richest in the world, in which he finds—

Organic matter.....	6.95
Silica.....	71.56
Alumina (clay).....	11.40
Magnesia.....	1.22
Lime	0.80

Alkaline Chlorides.....	1.21
Ox. iron.....	5.62
Phos. acid.....	trace
Loss.....	1.24

100.00

Prof. Hitchcock gives us an analysis of soils in Illinois, (No. 2) in cultivation 14 years without manure.

	No. 1.	No. 2.
Silicates.....	73.5	83.0
Organic matter.....	21.4	11.2
Sulph. lime.....	1.4	2.1
Carbonate lime.....	3.3	2.8
Phosphate lime.....	0.4	0.9
Water.....	9.5	5.3

	No. 3.
Vegetable matter.....	17.5
Silica.....	54.2
Alumina.....	10.6
Sub. phosphate alumina.....	3.0
Per ox. iron.....	7.0
Ox. manganese.....	1.0
Carb. lime.....	1.5
Water.....	5.

No. 3. is a soil from Maine which has produced 48 bushels of wheat per acre.

"Organic matter," says Prof. Tuomey, "is well known as a most important ingredient of fertility, yet the mere quantity indicates nothing, unless we know the state in which it exists." So much for organic matter.

"INORGANIC MANURES."—Pry talks quite pathetically about those "inorganic constituents of the soil which have been absorbed and fixed in the organized structures of a young and secondary forest, which must continue to tax the land for centuries to come, in a ratio totally disproportionate to the very scanty return from the decomposition of its leaves and twigs." Now if that "luminous expounder of agricultural chemistry," A. Petzholdt, be right, this cannot be; for all plants give back to the earth, what they draw from the earth, and to the air, what they get from the air. God designed that nothing should be lost, and but for these condensed and interwoven cobweb tissues of the roots, long since would the salts of the hills, been mingled with the waters of the ocean.

But it is the venerable oaks and towering pines which have done the business. Pray where did they come from—has Pry forgotten that

"Tall oaks from little acorns grow."

Well it is, that there were some of them large enough to be "invulnerable for centuries past, to the annual firing of the natives." Pry says there is no danger of the ashes of plants being washed away by the rains, because "the time selected is always during the prevalence of dry weather"—then what are the winds a-

bout? We knew a gentleman who was so well satisfied of the potash theory, that he cut down and burned every stick of timber on a field for the ashes, but as an Irish laborer employed by him expressed it—"by Jabers, sir, but a whiff of wind came along jist and blowed 'em all to the divil." The wood burners must be more familiar with the clerk of the weather than we are, if they can always select dry spells, and if Prof. Espy's theory be correct, they might be dead sure of a rain.

An all-wise Providence has arranged a perfect system of chemical affinities.—The sun, the air and the rain bring about the crumbling or decomposition of the various rocks, out of which, plants adapted to every condition, from the lowest to the highest grade spring. These plants die, and their roots and stems, leaves &c. uniting with the soil, form new elements or food for the support or perfection of a higher order of plants. Nature is ever changing, ever adapting herself to circumstances. Enclose any field, and it will change its productions if left unmolested. Exhaust any soil, and it will give birth to some new plant or tree adapted to its condition. If the object be to improve the soil, let nature alone—let her carry on the decomposition which quietly awaits all things—but if the object be merely to make a big pasture for the world's stock of quadrupeds, we have not a word to say, but that Pry may be right.

PRIZE ACRE OF COTTON.—Mr. Speer has given us an interesting experiment. He is clearly right that it "would be much cheaper, better and far more profitable to plant less, prepare better and manure that which is planted more." But there can be sometimes, too much of a good thing. One may feed a plant too high as well as a horse.

"EMBANKING."—What cannot be effected by perseverance? No man can read this letter without being convinced that it is better to do what you do well, and never to halt because you fear you may not live to witness the completion. It is absolutely refreshing to read a letter written in such a "con amore" spirit by a man three score years and ten. May the evening of his well spent life be cloudless!

BROOMSEDGE.

From the Laurensville Herald.
Manuring Lands---No. 3.

MR. EDITOR:—In my last I gave such doctrines and directions for making manures as I thought best suited to the convenience and wants of most of our farmers. I avoided, purposely, any allusion

to other modes, as calculated to confuse rather than inform the reader. I thought it would be best to stick to one thing at a time. In this I purpose to be more desultory, and to insert anything I think calculated to promote my object. It is always pleasant to have a reason for what we do, and to think we understand what we are about. The more we understand about the making of manures, the more confident and persevering we will be in our operations. Ignorance and doubt produce irresolution and lack of energy; and without resolution and energy, comparatively nothing useful is accomplished.

Very lately, what I consider a very important discovery has been made by Prof. Way, of England. He has discovered by various experiments, (which I have not room to detail, but which your readers will find in the July number of the *Farmer and Planter*, page 70) that clay will unite with and hold most of the materials which act as manures, among the rest, ammonia; and that vegetable mould will unite with, and hold, still a larger quantity of these materials. When your readers recollect how much has been said about the washing out of the soil, sinking down in the soil, and flying off in the air of the richest part of our manures, it will be a great relief to them, as it was to me, to be informed of this discovery.—*Manures unite with clay and mould, that is to say, with our soils, and remain fixed there, at least long enough to be taken up by the action of living plants.* Grand discovery! most important discovery! The farmer may now put his manure into the soil with the comfortable belief that it will stay there until it is taken up by his crop. I remember with what pain I used to read in the *Southern Cultivator*, Dr. Lee's account of the immense amount of rich salts that were washed out of our soils and carried down to the streams. So strong was the Doctor's sense of this injury to our soils, that in his zeal, he said the means would yet be found to force the sea to give back these fertilizers!—And again, when Liebig showed me that the nutritive parts of plants were principally derived from ammonia, and that this ammonia was constantly flying off into the air, how painful were my emotions—and great my disappointment when he stated what were the means of preventing it!—gypsum, charcoal, sulphate of iron, &c. What were we poor farmers of Laurens to do? We could not procure these things to any useful extent. Was all that could enrich our fields "to waste its richness on the desert air?"—Happy discovery! We have now only to bury these things in the bosom of the mother earth, and she will preserve them until we call upon her to return them in the shape of abundant harvests.

Let us turn this discovery of Prof. Way to practical account. It seems to me to be capable of various useful applications. I have room for only a few of them. 1st. It teaches us why we should haul earth or clay as well as vegetable litter into our cow yards. The animal matters dropped, help to rot the vegetable matters;

and this discovery shows that the vegetable matter, reduced to mould, and the clay will unite with and preserve the animal matters. But the clay and mould should predominate largely, as they can only unite with a certain quantity of the salts, as they are called, which we wish to preserve, all that remains free will be lost. Remember, clay unites not only with animal, but vegetable matters also, preserving both. 2nd. This discovery shows then, that we can make compost by mixing clay and vegetable matter alone; it shows also that we should plow the stubble on our fields under as soon as possible, that they may rot and unite with the clay in time to feed the growing crop. 3rd. It shows, what is a great consolation to the up-country farmer to know, that he is not under the necessity of sending to distant countries for plaster of Paris, sulphate of iron, &c., to scatter over his lots for the purpose of fastening the ammonia. It shows that even pondrette can be made by using a sufficient quantity of clay, as the Chinese knew long ago. 4th. It shows you, farmers of Laurens, that you have the means of fertilizing your fields all around you, and all that is necessary is for you to go resolutely and diligently to work in applying them.

Mr. Editor, in order to be understood by the mass of your readers, I have avoided technical terms at some inconvenience to myself. I write for the practical, not the scientific farmer. Yet it is difficult, perhaps impossible, to array the modern doctrines of agriculture in plain or common language. I may, if I think I can do it intelligibly, in another number, give some other formula for making compost manures. By a little industry I could collect several; but will it do any good—will any one put them to a practical test? Am I not even now discoursing to a sleepy audience? Be this as it may, I propose taking up, before I conclude, the last division of my subject—"a proper rotation of crops." I will try to sow in faith—may I not yet hope to reap my reward "a well done?"

FRANKLIN.

REMEDY FOR SURFEIT IN A HORSE.—First, bleed from the neck; then give a mash of bran, say one gallon, mixed well with hot sassafras tea, in which a teaspoonful of saltpetre and a table-spoonful of sulphur has been added. To be given three times a week. Never give the horse to drink for a half a-day after having been fed with this mash. As a drink give sassafras tea, with a little saltpetre, say one-fourth of an ounce to the quart. As an ointment, equal parts of sulphur and hog's lard.

GAPES IN CHICKENS may be easily cured by giving them small crumbs of dough impregnated with a little soft soap; once or twice is sufficient.

CURE FOR BOTS.—Give the horse one ounce of slacked lime three times a week, mixed with his food, for two or three weeks.

From the Laurensville Herald.

Cotton planting.

Mr. Editor:—Having given you my method of manuring and preparing land, I proceed to the cultivation of cotton: I commence planting about the fifth of April, and finish about the twenty-fifth of the same month, beginning first on red land, as it can with safety be planted some ten or fifteen days earlier than gray, which is of a colder nature. In order to insure a good stand, I sow two bushels of seed to the acre, rolling them in ashes, lime is preferable. Seed thus rolled will improve the staple and come up much earlier, bolder, and more regular than when sown dry; galled, stiff or wet land would require more, as it is more difficult to get a stand, and liable to die out. The drill is opened with a small plow, made for the purpose, not running deep enough to disturb the manure, and covered with a similar plow, always on the upper side of the drill, which would be alternately right and left. Having finished planting, if up with my business, I then regard the crop as half made. About the first of May, I commence running around my cotton with the eagle, a plow similar to the sweep, and, in six or eight days commence thinning with the hoe, though not to a stand until the spring fairly sets in—leaving from one to three stalks in a place. As the spring advances, and cotton not so liable to die out, I reduce it nearer to a stand. I frequently find it necessary about the last of May, to start the plows ahead of the hoe hands, plowing the second time with the same plows before it is hoed. The cotton that was hoed first, having been plowed the second time, I turn back and hoe some six or eight days before I return and hoe what was left, which will throw me as late as the tenth of June. Thinning out, for the first time, the cotton that was planted last, I never let my plows and hoes run together, if possible, always dividing the time. I also plow the second time with the eagle, which saves much time, not having any middles to split out, and leave a broad bed to the cotton, which prevents it from being washed down by the heavy rains, the ground being sufficiently loose next to the cotton for it to grow.

Too much care cannot be taken in going over the cotton the second time with the hoe, in order to get a regular stand. If the stalks that are to remain will stand alone, I allow no dirt to be put around it, only thinning and getting out the grass; the stalk being tender, much dirt put around it will check its growth, cause it to turn yellow and drop the under leaves.

Where the land is strong I give twelve or fifteen inches in the drill, never allowing but one stalk to remain in a place, unless there should be a gap, then leave two, to fill up the vacancy. Where the land is not so strong, eight or ten inches, and where the land is thin, not so far apart—not suffering the hoe to cut square across the bed, but cutting out with the corner. The same row is not thinned across the field at equal distances, but to

suit the quality of the land—when it is thin I frequently leave two stalks in a place. It is as late as the tenth of July before I get over my cotton hoeing the second time, and reduce it to a perfect stand. In order to have the work well done, I prefer being one or two weeks later. Now I find I have to vary with the change of seasons and press of my crop. In order to do a day's work to the most advantage, I do not take my work regular, if the season is too dry and I come to a place that is too hard to do a day's work, I reserve until there is a season in the ground, and if a spot that is too wet, leave it until the work can be done to an advantage.

Again, I find it necessary to turn back and commence going over the third time with the hoe, before getting over the second time. This seems to be the stage that farmers save or lose their crops.—The plow is started the third time around the cotton, where the hoe stops. I prefer the eagle this time to the shovel; if the shovel is used there will be too much dirt to take away when the hoe follows. By turning back the third time, I prevent so much of my crop from getting foul. About a week I return back and finish going over the second time. About the last of June, and first of July, is the first time that the shovel is used—the cotton is then sufficiently large to bear dirt—the stalk having become hard and the weather warm, by throwing dirt to it, retains its squares. Up to this time I plow deep. Should a drought occur in the latter part of the season, then I can keep my plows running, which I invariably do, after running around with the shovel; in a few days the eagle follows, splitting out the middles. The third and last hoeing is merely to pick out the bunches of grass and straighten the stalks of cotton. The fourth and last plowing is done the last of July and first of August, using the eagle, running around and splitting out the middles at the same time; but not so deep as the former plowing. This is my plan of cultivating cotton; but I am of the opinion that few general rules can be given to farming; our lands are so varied, and the seasons so changeable that the success of the farmer depends mostly on the observation and experience.

Yours respectfully,

D. J. Williams.

Waterloo, Nov. 25, 1850.

From the Southern Christian Advocate.

A New and Valuable Clover for the South.

During the past spring I was much interested in examining a new species of clover, which is raised by two gentlemen in the vicinity of Forkland, Ala. This clover, when growing, before blossoming, resembles the red clover in some respects, but in others it is entirely different. The blossom is yellow, and the seed resembles the bean in shape, though it is but little larger than the seed of the red clover, and is contained in a very singular burr, which is about the size of a large pea. Again, this grass, roots and all dies annually; yet the same piece of land need never be sown but once, as the

seed is produced in very great abundance, and comes up very freely and surely every autumn. Again it is entirely a fall and winter grass. It commences growing in October, and grows on finely through the whole winter, affording the finest pasturage, and continues to grow well, if pastured, until the first of May; about this time the seed begin to ripen, and the grass gradually dies, and leaves the ground thickly covered with the dead branches and seed. When the cool fall rains and dews return, it then re-appears, and grows as before stated.

I have said that it yields an abundant crop of seed; indeed, the quantity of seed is so great, that it is a striking and very important peculiarity. From my own observations, and from what one of the gentlemen above alluded to has told me, I am well satisfied that it will yield, on good land, at least 50 bushels, probably 100 bushels of seed in the burr per acre, and this will be amply sufficient to sow 15 or 20 acres thickly. This will render the clover exceedingly valuable to every Southern planter. From a lot of 5 acres of good clover, he will raise seed enough to sow 100 acres of cotton land, and thus secure a rich reward of grass to cover the land during the winter, and protect it from washing rains, and afford him the best pasture in the world. This is not mere fancy, for its growth on fair land is as luxuriant as I ever saw of the red clover, on the finest lands in Virginia or Kentucky. I carefully examined a lot of this clover, which was closely grazed to the first of March last, and about the first of May a great many of its branches were four feet long. I have often admired the luxuriant pastures and meadows on the rich valley of the Ohio, but I think I never saw a better crop of grass in all my life than that was.

Any person who may be desirous of getting further information about this grass, can obtain it by writing to Dr. H. L. Kennon, or Mr. J. C. Snedecor, Forkland, Ala. The letters should be post-paid, as this is without their knowledge.

My apology for troubling you with this communication (if one is needed,) is this: I was brought up in agricultural pursuits, in the rich and beautiful valley of the Ohio, where the fertility of their lands is easily increased an hundred fold, by a judicious system of grassing, and ever since I became a citizen of the South, I have regretted to see her richest lands rapidly wasting away without the hope of future improvements; and I desire, as a sincere lover of my adopted home, to call the attention of planters to the above named grass, because I firmly believe it can be made incalculably valuable to the planting interest of the South. N.

Forkland, Ala., July 12, 1850.

PREPARING SEEDS OF FRUIT TREES.—If seeds of fruit trees be not sown in the fall, they should be prepared in the fall, or early in the winter, (the middle of the winter may be in time,) for sowing the next spring, else they will not grow. Apple and pear seeds sowed dry in the spring will not generally come up till the next spring.

Throwing Bread away.

We hear complaints, on all sides, that money is scarce, the times hard, and that it is difficult for the poor, in these dull times, to get a living. We suppose that by the word living, is meant the prime staple of life, or, as it is sometimes called, the "staff of life," bread. Now bread is so plenty that we throw half of it away. In order to show wherein this is done every day, let us "reason together" a little. The principal material of which bread is made in New England, is flour, and this you all know is made of wheat. The good old days of corn bread and "rye and Indian," have gone by. Times have changed, and we may well say that we have changed most essentially with them. People may say what they please about the "hardy New Englanders."—There used to be such a race, but they are disappearing, and an effeminate race growing up to supply their places.—There are many causes for this deterioration of the strength of the people, but the principal cause is the present mode of living. We throw away the best half of the wheat, and eat only the finer parts. Every body must have superfine flour on their table. Well, to make superfine flour the wheat must be ground fine—the meal must then be bolted through the finest bolts or sieves, and the bran and other coarser parts are carefully separated, and consigned to the pig trough or cattle manger. What did the Almighty make these parts for? For the nourishment of man; but man has become so "unco" wise that he throws them aside and picks out only the finer particles; and he dearly pays the penalty of his folly, in decreased health, strength, and general stamina of constitution.

Let us inquire into the ingredients of wheat—and that we may not rest wholly on our own individual authority, we will call others in, who have carefully examined the physical and chemical nature of wheat. Prof. Johnston has done this pretty thoroughly, and so we will draw upon him for a few facts.

First, we will take into consideration some of the materials of our bodies; and second, what is needed to keep up the repairs or supplies of these materials as fast as they are wasted or spent in the course of life.

The solid parts of the human body, are fat, muscle (flesh) and bone.

The liquid or fluid parts of the body contain also the fat and muscle and bone ingredients in a fluid state, whereby they are conveyed to different parts of the body, to be deposited where needed.

Now every body knows that these three substances are liable to constant waste, and require to be renewed constantly.—To renew them we must eat food, and if we eat food that contains fat-making, muscle-making, and bone-making materials, and the food is digested in a healthy manner, this waste is repaired with ease and pleasure. As we commenced with the article bread, we will confine ourselves to that. Vegetable food contains these three ingredients or materials, and especially wheat.

That food is best and the most nourishing that supplies all the ingredients of the body most abundantly, on the whole, or in proportions most suited to the actual wants of the animal that eats it.

Now the grain of wheat you know consists of two parts, the inner grain and the skin that covers it. The inner grain is your superfine flour, and the covering is the bran.

The miller is not able to peel the outer part perfectly away from the inner, and so a little of it is always mixed with your flour; but by the process of bolting, it is removed more completely than in any other way, and it may be considered as wholly separated.

According to Professor P., of the *fat-making materials*, whole grain contains twenty-eight pounds in one thousand; fine flour twenty pounds; bran sixty pounds.

Thus you see that while a thousand pounds of whole grain will give you twenty-eight pounds of fat, a thousand pounds of fine flour will give you but twenty, and a thousand pounds of bran will give you sixty. If, therefore, you grind the wheat all together, you may get nearly half as much again for fat-making materials.

Well, how is it with *muscle or flesh-making materials*? Whole grain contains one hundred and fifty-six pounds in one thousand; fine flour, one hundred and thirty pounds. So you see that wheat ground all together, gives one-fifth part more muscle material than fine flour.

Our muscles, you will allow, are very serviceable, and their strength of great importance to us. Ought we not to supply them with right materials?—but when we bolt our wheat and use only the fine parts, we throw away about two pounds of such out of every ten.

Of the *bone-making material*, whole grain contains one hundred and seventy pounds in one thousand; bran seven hundred pounds; fine flour sixty pounds.

You will certainly allow that bones are a very important part of your bodies, and you will see, by the above, that as it regards them, the whole meal is nearly three times more nourishing than the fine flour.

Now let us sum the whole together and see if we have not made out a clear case, viz: that we are daily actually throwing a vast quantity of food away.

One thousand pounds of whole meal contains:

Muscular matter,	156 lbs.
Bone matter,	170 "
Fat matter,	28 "
	<hr/>
	354

One thousand pounds of fine flour contains:

Muscular matter,	130 lbs.
Bone matter,	60 "
Fat matter,	20 "
	<hr/>
	210

Now deduct 210 from 354, and you have 144 lbs. of matter very essential to nourishment thrown out. Who then will say that we are not throwing away

food every day of our lives? Is it any wonder that we are growing up a delicate and effeminate people? Our children, instead of being fed upon coarse bread, and turned into the open air for exercise, whereby lungs and limbs may be exercised and expanded, are fed on flour-cake of the finest kind, and *mewed* up in air-tight houses like plants in a hot bed, which wilt on exposure.

We do not wish to be ultra in our notions or expressions, but we honestly believe that the man who invented the bolt to a flour-mill cursed the nation.

[Maine Farmer.]

From the American Farmer.

Advantages of Raying Seed Rice.

BY B. HUGER, M. D., OF CHARLESTON DIS., S. C.

That like begets like, is an axiom which though not universally true either in the animal or vegetable creation, is sufficiently so, to excite our attention to the selection and preparation of our seed used for agricultural purposes; yet if we refer to the practice which is pursued by most, I may say all of us, it would seem doubtful whether or not we were impressed with its importance. How rarely is it that the corn field is traversed and our seed selected from the stalks which have proved most productive and manifested more vigor and healthfulness than the neighboring stalks. But the subject to which I am anxious to attract the attention of the society at this time is in reference to the advantages resulting to the raying of seed rice. No one unaccustomed to the examination of this article, could be persuaded without ocular demonstration, that the rice which he plants, and which to the eye is pure and clean, contains at least 15 per cent. of grain utterly unfit for agricultural purposes, some of which will never germinate, and much of which does, will only produce a puny and sickly plant, incapable of sustaining an abundant crop.

Upon this subject I have been for several years making observations, and have acquired some knowledge. From the best rice I make (which when sent to mill seldom requires more than 9½ bushels to make 600 weight net) threshed on the ground, and the heads of the sheaves carefully lapped and well winnowed, I usually ray out from 15 to 18 per cent. of small or hulled, or light or shelled rice, which I should think thrown away if planted. In confirmation of this statement, I have brought and presented to the society three samples of rice. No. 1 is the rice as it comes from the wind-fan, and is prepared for mill. No. 2 is the hulled or small, or shelled or light grains, which the raying screen has separated from No. 1. No. 3 is the rice which has been rayed and is prepared for seed. An examination of No. 2 will naturally suggest the inquiry, can a good crop be expected when more than 15 per cent. of the seed is of necessity sickly and unproductive; is it to be wondered at that our crops are thin and our plants delicate, sinking under too much water or too much drought, and unfit to struggle with,

any of the various accidents and vicissitudes to which it is liable: on the contrary, should not our surprise be that we realise as abundant as we do. Instead of (as we are all prone to do) attributing our want of success to cold mornings and nights, wet springs and hot suns, if we would begin with ourselves and recollect that our trunks are not tight, our drains not deep, our lands not pulverized, our seed not rayed and consequently not fit for use—if all these circumstances were considered and weighed, we should soon find a different state of things. Inferior seed rice is not confined to Cooper River, for I have this year purchased at a high price the best seed rice from Waccamaw that could be purchased, and from this rice, which has been much lauded, I have taken 10 per cent. of rice, which is marked No. 4. On our northern rivers the land is more compact and produces a more flinty grain, and the quality is better than our own, and is not so much injured by indifferent seed, and hence the planter does not suffer to the same extent. My deliberate conviction, based upon much attention to the subject, is, that if each of us would give the attention to the preparation of the seed which its importance demands, the character of our rice would be entirely altered and assume such a place in market as we all desire. I will merely add that a raying screen is cheap and so easy of construction that any plantation carpenter can make one in a day.

The Spaying of Cows.

Translated from the French.

The operation of spaying the cow is productive of great advantages.

1. The cow spayed a short time after calving, that is to say, thirty or forty days afterwards, and at the time when she gives the largest quantity of milk, continues to give the like quantity, if not during her lifetime, at least during many years, and at the time when the milk begins to dry up the animal fattens. We are able to add, moreover, at this day, certain facts, the result of many year's experiment, that the milk of the spayed cow, although as abundant and sometimes more so, than before the operation, is of a superior quality to that from a cow not spayed; that it is uniform in its character, that it is richer, consequently more buttery, and that the butter is always of a golden color.

We believe that we ought to remark in passing, that if we feed the spayed cow too abundantly, lactation diminishes, and the beast properly fattens. It is, therefore, important that the feeding should not be more than sufficient to enable us to obtain the desired result.

2. The spayed cow fattens more easily; its flesh, age considered, is better than that of the ox. It is more tender and juicy.

Indeed, no one is ignorant of the fact, that all domestic animals, males as well as females, deprived of their procreative organs, fatten more quickly than those which retain them, that the flesh of the spayed females is more tender and deli-

cate than that of the males. The same phenomena take place with spayed cows that occur among other females that have submitted to this operation: so, besides the advantage of furnishing a long continued supply, before commencing a course of fattening, of abundant milk, and butter of a superior quality, the cow fattens easily and completely, and a certain benefit follows this course.

3. In spaying decrepid cows, that is to say, of the age of from six to seven years—puny small ones; those which, though frequently experience difficulty in calving, or delivery; those difficult to keep; and finally, all those that are TAURELIERES, that is to say, constantly in heat—we have in addition to an abundant production of milk and butter, and a facility of fattening, the advantage of preventing a degeneration of the species, and moreover of avoiding a crowd of accidents, of maladies which frequently take place during after gestation, and to diminish those which happen during the period of heat.

Except under peculiar circumstances we should take care in spaying the cow, that her teats have acquired their complete development, and the milk has its proper qualities. The most suitable time is after the third or fourth calving.

Many societies of agriculture, impressed with the important results that this operation effects, fix yearly, at their agricultural meetings, premiums for the encouragement of the spaying of cows. We doubt not that other societies who have not yet adopted this plan—not being convinced of its importance—when they are, will imitate their example. By this means, they bestow upon the country a new source of products.

We have been engaged for four years in researches upon this valuable discovery, and we believe that it is incumbent upon us to state the results that we have observed up to the present time.

In the number of twenty-seven cows, age from six to fifteen years, that we have actually spayed, we have had the following results:

1. Increase of milk in cows of six years.
2. Constant production in those that have passed that age.
3. Milk richer than that of the cow not spayed, consequently more buttery, and the butter both of a uniformly golden color and having an aroma and taste far superior to that of a cow that has not undergone this operation.

Early in July, 1842, we obtained as a subject of experiment, a cow from Brittany, of the small kind, twelve years old, calved about two months before, and which gave, when we obtained her, about six quarts of milk daily. The next day after we performed the operation of spaying, indeed the first eight days after that, the secretion of milk sensibly diminished, in consequence of the light diet on which she had been put; but on the ninth day, the time at which the cure was complete, and the cow put on her ordinary food, the milk promptly returned as to its former quantity, and she at the same time assumed a plumpness that she had not

had previously. Customarily bringing together the yield of three days butter-making, being eighteen quarts, it produced constantly two kilograms of butter of the best quality. From the month of December to the following March, the quantity of milk diminished about one-third, and the butter proportionally, the cow during that time having been put on dry fodder. But as soon as we were able to turn her into pasture—about the beginning of April—the milk, after eight days of this new food, resumed its former course, and continued daily to furnish the same relative amounts of milk and butter as before.

Three cows, two of which were fourteen years old, and the other fifteen, have dried up two years after the operation, and at the same time promptly fattening, without increase or change of food.

One cow eight years old, plentifully supplied with trefoil and cabbage, gave, a short time after the operation, a quantity of milk nearly double that which she gave before, although she was kept on the same kind of food. She has during a year continued to furnish the same amount, and has in addition fattened so rapidly, that the owner has been obliged, seeing her fatness, to sell her to the butcher, although she was still very good for milk.

Another fact, no less worthy of remark we must not pass over in silence: and which goes to prove the superior and unchanging quality of the milk of the spayed cow. It is, that a proprietor having spayed a cow five years old recently calved, with the special intention of feeding with her milk, a newly-born infant, arriving at the age of six months, of a robust constitution, refused pap since it had accidentally been prepared with milk different from that of the spayed cow.

The other cows which had been spayed, continued to give entire satisfaction to their owners, as well in respect to the quantity and quality of the milk, as also by their good condition.

Conclusion.—From what has preceded, it is fixed and irrefutable—

1. That spaying produces permanence of milk, increase of quantity, and improvement of quality, richer, more butter, superior color, finer taste and flavor.
2. The most suitable age is six years, and after the third or fourth calf.
3. The spayed cow fattens more easily, and furnishes beef of a better quality.
4. Cows that are bad breeders, may be kept as good milkers, and the quality of good cattle kept up.—*Wyoming Mirror.*

From the Granite Farmer.

The Farmer's Winter Evenings.

We would inquire of our readers, if they have made any arrangements to render the long winter evenings, incident to the season of the year, a source of profit in their business. "Knowledge is power" to the farmer, as really as to any other human being, be his employment what it may. These long evenings, then, are the fittest seasons possible in which to acquire knowledge upon the subject of farming.

There are various means of improvement that might be suggested, any one or all of which would be attended with great profit. We would suggest a few.

First and foremost, there is the agricultural periodical. A well selected agricultural journal coming to the farmer weekly, semi-monthly or monthly, to be read by his winter-evening fireside, and to excite his own thought to activity upon farm topics, can be made, to the thinking man, of immense benefit. And here let us caution the reader against taking what he reads as a mere matter of course, and passing the subject without independent thought. Every intelligent farmer is able from his previous reading or from his own experience, to form some idea of the soundness of the views advanced. At any rate, articles of apparent value should be read with so much careful thought as may make the views advanced familiar to the reader, that they may dwell in his memory, and be brought to the test of experiment, when the proper season for the trial shall have come.—Reading is valuable as the source of new facts attainable, new theories to be tried &c.—but it may be queried whether after all, the greatest value is not the stimulus reading gives to our own thoughts. Certainly he who reads without using his own mind *actively*, in examining, questioning, analyzing and judging, loses much, very much of its value. Let no farmer then be without some food for his thought.

From the Laurensville Herald.

Mode of Planting and Culture of Cotton.

GENTLEMEN:—I promised, in my last communication, to give you my mode of planting and culture of cotton—tools used, &c.:

I usually break up my land well before bedding for cotton, taking care to have it well pulverized; and in every instance where it has been planted in corn or cotton, I bury the stalks, which Mr. McDuffie informed me, would add at least 100 pounds of cotton to the acre planted, and my experience confirms me in the same opinion. Previous to laying off my rows, I measure my land 70 yards square and drive stakes at each corner, and haul 20 bushels of cotton seed and deposite in the centre of each acre; the stable, cow lot and hog manure, I haul and deposite in such quantities as will manure the land in the drill, taking care to manure poorer places so that they will be equal to the best land in the field. When I commence laying off my rows, I nail a piece of wood at the upper end of the foot of the plow, and extend it beyond the rod in the beam, and nail it also. Having previously bored a three quarter auger hole near the upper end, I put in a piece of tough wood six feet long, extending three feet from the centre on each side—or less, if I desire my rows under three feet—which, you will perceive, serves as a gauge to regulate the width of the rows. As I grade all my cotton land, the hand is careful to see that the end of the measure is always over the centre of the furrow, which will make all the rows of

equal width. I follow, then, by putting the manure *regular* in the drill, which is covered with a large twister, which I will describe hereafter. I then finish with one furrow with a double twister, which I will also describe. It will be seen that I made my beds with four furrows complete; and I will here remark that I am in favor of high beds, from the fact that cotton, when elevated, will grow off sooner, mature quicker, and is easier cultivated. Should any of my land be cloddy after it is bedded up, I invariably have them broken with a hoe, when there is a good season. I generally commence planting from the 5th to the 10th of April; and should the land be run together by severe rains, I run a furrow with the double twister before planting, which destroys vegetation and renews the beds.

I open the beds with a scooter six inches long and two inches wide, and I attach a piece of wood 14 inches long to the heel of the screw which fastens on the scooter. The block is made three square, tapering gradually to the end which is fastened to the screw, and about 4½ inches wide and three inches deep, with a piece 11 inches long nailed across near the hind end, which will prevent the block from turning in the furrow. The object of this block is to press open the furrow which is made for the seed, and to make it of equal depth; and the result is, that the seed when dropped falls to the centre of the furrow and comes up in a straight line with a regular stand. I cover with a block 2 feet long, 6 by 7 inches square; in the centre it is sawed one inch and a half and rounded so as to fit to the top of the bed; a beam is fitted in an inch and a half mortise, and fastened by the upright piece to which the handles are attached. This block, though simple in structure, I cannot too highly recommend to planters in general, as it presses the earth gently on the seed and leaves the bed beautifully rounded, and retains the bed, which I consider to be of *great importance*. I must confess that I never could see the object of bedding up cotton land and then taking a harrow or board and level it down in planting. I advocate high beds, with a good water furrow between the rows; and I have no doubt that cotton can be raised successfully in the upper districts, under the mountains, if this system was adopted.

When the cotton is all up, and we perceive the third or fourth leaf, we start the scrapers, which shaves the beds and leaves the cotton in a straight ridge about 3 inches wide, throwing the grass and clods into the centre of the row. In four or five days after, we start the hoes to chopping out the cotton, leaving some five or six stalks in a place, taking care to remove *all the grass from the cotton, as near as possible*. In five or six days we start the 16 inch sweeps running around the cotton, which throws the dirt back to the plant and restores the bed. The first working is generally completed in fifteen days. The second operation, the hoes go before and stir the surface and take the cotton down to two or three stalks; and I will here remark, that at no

time in the cultivation of the crop is the attention of the overseer so important as the second working; at this stage there are more crops injured by suffering the negroes to destroy the stand, than are ever after, either by the effects of the lice, or any other cause, and I would impress *this fact upon the minds* of employers, overseers, and every man who plants cotton in the upper division of this state; and I am convinced that it is impossible to make a full crop of cotton on a large portion of our poor lands, unless we *have a good stand*; but I find I have digressed. A few days after we commence working with the hoes, we start the sweeps again, running in the same furrow, which moulds the dirt to the cotton, and also covers the grass in the middle. In this process I endeavor to keep the hoes four or five days ahead of the plows, unless prevented by rain; by so doing the earth is frequently stirred around the plant—an *important consideration* in agriculture, which every practical planter will acknowledge. By the time this working is completed, wheat and oat harvest must be attended to, which is generally closed the first week in July. The third working we split out the middle with the double twister, and the hoes following behind, taking out the grass and thinning out the cotton to one and two stalks, and stirring the surface around the cotton; this working restores the beds to their original form; and I will here remark they are never afterwards broken. The last and finishing work is done the first weeks of August, with the 32 inch sweep, with one furrow in each row, and the hoes following immediately behind, merely stirring the surface again, which completes the entire working.—We have occasionally topped the cotton about this time, but I have doubts whether it is of any great benefit, especially in dry seasons.

I am yours, &c.

THOMAS B. BYRD.

P. S. I omitted to state that I use hoes from 6 to 7 inches wide, which generally leave the cotton from 7 to 10 inches in the drill.

T. B. B.

TO MAKE GINGER-POP, OR BEER.—Bruised ginger, 2 ounces; water, 5 gallons. Boil for one hour, then add, when sufficiently cool, lump sugar, 3½ pounds; cream of tartar, 1½ ounce; essence of lemon, 1 drachm; yeast ½ pint. Strain, bottle, and wire down the corks.

2. Loaf sugar, 1 pound; rasped ginger, 1 oz.; cream of tartar, ¾ of an ounce; boiling water, 1 gallon. Mix and cover them up close for one hour, then add essence of lemon, 15 drops; yeast, two or three spoon fulls. Strain, bottle, and wire down the corks.

TREATMENT OF SCARLET FEVER.—*Important Prescription*.—Doctor Lindsly, of Washington, strongly recommends the mode of treatment of scarlet fever, resorted to by Dr. Scheemann, physician to the King of Hanover. It is as follows, and exceedingly simple.

Treatment of Scarlet Fever by Inunction.—From the first day of the illness, and as soon as we are certain of its nature, the patient must be rubbed morning and

evening over the whole body with a piece of bacon, in such a manner that, with the exception of the head, a covering of fat is every where applied. In order to make this rubbing somewhat easier, it is best to take a piece of bacon the size of the hand, choosing a part still armed with the rind, that we may have a firm grasp. On the soft side of this piece slits are to be made, in order to allow the oozing out of the fat. The rubbing must be thoroughly performed, and not too quickly, in order that the skin may be regularly saturated with the fat. The beneficial results of the application are soon obvious; with a rapidity bordering on magic, all, even the most painful, symptoms of the disease are allayed; quiet, sleep, good humor, appetite return, and there remains only the impatience to quit the sick room.

To PICKLE CUCUMBERS.—Trim and wash them in salt and water, drain and put them into the bottles, add a little mace, cloves, capsicum and mustard seed, then cover them with white vinegar nearly boiling hot; cork immediately.

PROSPECTUS

OF THE

FARMER & PLANTER For 1851,

A MONTHLY JOURNAL,

DEVOTED TO THE AGRICULTURE OF
THE SOUTH,
AND ESPECIALLY ADAPTED TO ITS CLIMATE,
PRODUCTIONS AND WANTS.

The second volume will commence February 1851. Each number will be mailed on or about the first day of every month in the year, and will contain SIXTEEN ROYAL QUARTO PAGES, printed on new type, in the best manner, and on beautiful strong paper suitable for binding.

The twelve numbers will make a handsome volume of nearly two hundred pages in Royal Quarto form, ILLUSTRATED with numerous SPLENDID ENGRAVINGS of Animals of the best breed, Rural Architecture, Fruits, Cuts of the latest and most approved style of Agricultural Implements and Machinery.

The Editors are determined to make it worthy of the South and South-West, and have the pleasure to announce that they will be assisted in the conduct of the Second Volume by many of the best planters in South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas and Virginia.—It is believed no Agricultural paper in the United States can present the names of an abler corps of correspondents, than will contribute to this during 1851. Its contents will embrace a large amount of original matter, with choice selections entirely suited to the Southern Atlantic and Gulf States.

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peals for that support it merits, to the whole body of those engaged in Southern Agriculture.

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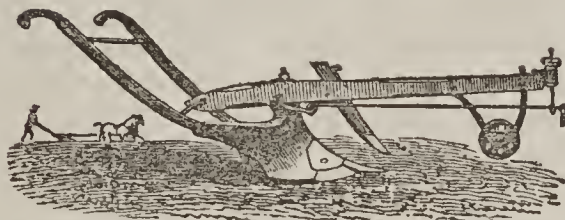
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